

Application No. 10/762,048
Art Unit 1712, Examiner Sellers
Docket No. CL-1845 US DIV
May 10, 2006
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Remarks: General

The claims have been amended by rewriting Claim 18 and adding Claim 33 to cover more particularized embodiments of this invention. The subject matter of the canceled claims will be re-presented at a later time.

Various words, phrases and/or textual passages that may not have been present in the claims as originally filed or as previously amended have been added by amendment to Claim 18, and have been introduced in new Claim 33. No new matter is added in those claims, however, as basis in the specification for those amendatory words, phrases and/or textual passages is as follows:

in Claim 18, support for the recitation as to the composition being free flowing may be found on page 12 at line 1;

in Claim 18, support for the recitation as to the composition being uncrosslinked may be found on page 3 at line 2;

in Claim 18, support for the recitation as to component (a) being unreacted with component (b) may be found (i) in Equation 2 on page 6, (ii) in the discussion on page 8 at line 20 about the reaction of ammonia with the -COOH group, and (iii) in the discussion on page 9 at line 9 concerning the desire for the epoxy groups to remain unreacted; and

in Claim 33, support for the recitation as to the presence of component (c) may be found on page 8 at line 24.

A petition under 37 CFR §1.136 for a three-month extension of time to respond to the Examiner's action is enclosed, the fee for which should be charged to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

By Applicant's calculation, no fee is due by reason of this amendment to the claims. If any fee other than or in addition to the extension fee mentioned specifically above is required to authorize or obtain consideration of this response, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1928.

Claims 18, 20, 25 and 33 are now active in the application. Applicant hereby requests reconsideration and further examination of the application in view of the reasons it has set forth below for allowance of the claims.

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Remarks: Detailed Action

The Examiner has rejected Claims 18, 20~26 and 29~32 under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103. Claims 19, 21~24 and 26~32 have been canceled.

Claim 18, as amended, is directed to a composition in which the epoxy groups remain unreacted, with the result that the composition is uncrosslinked. This type of composition may be obtained by mixing procedures that avoid the high temperatures, and consequent heat history, that result from the use of an extruder to incorporate the catalyst, following which pulverization occurs to convert the extrudate back to powdered condition.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 of Claim 18 and all claims dependent thereon.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all of the Examiner's objections and rejections have been properly traversed, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, request for which is hereby respectfully made.

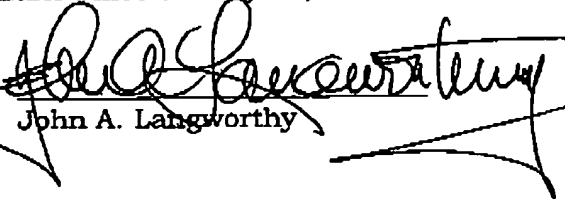
Respectfully submitted,



John A. Langworthy
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 32,255
Telephone: (302) 992-4362
Facsimile: (302) 992-5374

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on May 10, 2006.

Date: May 10, 2006



John A. Langworthy

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Appendix A

(i) Amendments
in marked-up form to
Claims 18 and 25,

(ii) New Claim 33, and

(iii) Status of all pending claims
(18, 20, 25 and 33)

1-17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) An uncured, free-flowing, powder coating composition prepared from a powder comprising (a) a Bisphenol-A polyepoxy compound, and (b) the reaction product of a carboxyl-functional polymer, a polyepoxy compound, and an amine selected from the group consisting of organic amines polyester resin and ammonia, wherein the composition is substantially free of catalyst residue uncrosslinked, and wherein component (a) is unreacted with component (b).

19. (cancelled)

20. (original) An article of manufacture coated by the composition of Claim 18.

21-24. (cancelled).

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25. (currently amended) A composition according to Claim 18 wherein the ~~amine-ammonia~~ is in avapor state ~~selected from the group consisting of vapor, liquid or dispersed in a solvent.~~

26~32. (cancelled).

33. (new) A composition according to Claim 18 further comprising (c) a carboxyl-functional polymer that has not been reacted with an organic amine or ammonia.